

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 OPR-02 AID-05
MCT-02 SY-05 USSS-00 EUR-12 TRSE-00 SCS-06 CA-01
/097 W

-----021617 101439Z /53

R 091209Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9730
DIA WASHDC
CIA WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 7552

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORS, IR
SUBJ: MORE RUMBLES IN ISFAHAN

REF: TEHRAN 7454

SUMMARY: AFTER QUIET FEW DAYS SURROUNDING CONSTITUTION DAY
AUG. 5, SIFAHAN SUFFERED EVENING OF ROAMING CROWDS, FIREBOMBING
AND EXTENSIVE DAMAGE TO BUILDINGS AND BANKS. SEVERAL THREATS
MADE OT AMCITS, BUT NO CONCERTED ANTI-U.S. CAMPAIGN IN
EVIDENCE. END SUMMARY.

1. CONSUL MCGAFFEY REPORTS THAT NIGHT AUG. 8 SAW CROWDS
ROAMING OUTWARD FROM MULLAH TAHERI'S HOME MOSQUE BEGINNING
AT 10PM TO SET FIRE TO A NUMBER OF BUILDINGS, INCLUDING
SEVERAL BANKS. THRE WAS A CONFRONTATION WITH POLICE, SHOTS
WERE HEARD, AND AMBULANCES WERE SEEN IN CITY. NO CASUALTY
FIGURES ARE AVAILABLE.

2. AMOUNG BUILDINGS HIT WAS JOLFA HOTEL, ONE-THIRD OF WHOSE
ROOMS ARE RENTED TO AMERICANS WORKING IN ISFAHAN AND
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PIZZA HUT, A RESTAURANT ON HAKIM-NEZAMI STREET, FREQUENTED
BY MANY AMERICANS.

3. CONSULATE HAS COLLECTED REPORTS OF SEVERAL INSTANCES
ADDITIONAL TO THOSE REFTEL WHERE AMERICANS HAVE BEEN
THREATENED AND ONE CASE WHERE AMCIT WAS APPARENTLY SHOT
AT BY PELLET GUN. DESPITE THIS, CONSUL DOES NOT RPT NOT

BELIEVE RELIGIOUS EXTREMEISTS ARE TARGETING AMERICANS AS
SUCH, BUT SITUATION CLEARLY INVOLVES MORE POTENTIAL
DANGER THAN IT DID TWO OR THREE WEEKS AGAO. BENEFICIAL
SIDE EFFECT HAS BEEN NUMBER OF SMALLER U.S. OUTFITS
AND STRAY INDIVIDUALS AMCITS ARE REGISTEREING WITH
CONSULATE WHO HAD NOT DONE SO PREVIOUSLY.
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